

THE
PROCEEDINGS

OF THE
MESSENGERS, ELDERS,
AND
REPRESENTATIVES

OF THE

GENERAL BAPTIST CHURCHES IN KENT

AT AN

ASSOCIATION HELD AT CANTERBURY

MAY 6, 1800

A SERMON was preached by BROTHER JOSEPH HOBBS,
from Eph. i. 13, 14.

"In whom ye also trusted, &c. &c."

CANTERBURY:

PRINTED BY W. BRISTOW, ON THE PARADE.

M.DCCC.

Present—Messenger *Brother S. Kingsford.*

Chairman—*Brother Benjamin Marten.*

Moderators—*Brothers F. J. Kingsford and Jos. Dobel.*

CHURCHES.

ELDERS.

REPRESENTATIVES.

<i>Canterbury,</i>	- -	<i>S. Kingsford</i>	{	<i>P. Chapman.</i>
				<i>E. Hayward, jun.</i>
				<i>Tho. Fletcher.</i>
				<i>Stephen Howell.</i>
<i>Dover,</i>	- - - -		{	<i>Sampson Peirce.</i>
				<i>Geo. Oliver.</i>
				<i>John Baker.</i>
				<i>Samuel Beal.</i>
<i>Deal,</i>	- - -	<i>John Kingsford</i>	{	<i>John Browning.</i>
				<i>F. J. Kingsford.</i>
<i>Hythe,</i>	- - - - -			
<i>Ramsgate,</i>	- - - - -			
<i>Smarden and Staplehurst,</i>	{	<i>Joseph Seaton</i>	{	<i>Thomas Fagg.</i>
				<i>Benjamin Austen.</i>
				<i>Joseph Brounger.</i>
<i>Headcorn,</i>	- -	{	{	<i>Edward Love</i>
				<i>R. Pyall</i>
				<i>B. Martin</i>
				<i>Stephen Love.</i>
				<i>John Love, jun.</i>
<i>Cranbrook,</i>	- - - -		{	<i>Tho. Pawsons.</i>
				<i>Wm. Busf.</i>
				<i>Joseph Dobel.</i>
<i>Chatham,</i>	- - -	<i>Joseph Hobbs</i>		
<i>Bessels Green,</i>	- - - - -			
<i>Yalding,</i>	- - - - -			
<i>Maidstone,</i>	- - - - -			



First.—Respecting the first article of the proceedings of last Association, viz. the ordination of Deacons in the churches of *Dover* and *Hythe*; Brother *Sampson Kingsford* has again visited those churches, and reports that from the present situation of the church at *Hythe*, it is necessary to postpone the business still longer; but as it respects *Dover* church, there is reason to expect some favourable alterations relative to the ordination of Deacons will soon commence.

Second.—Not having received any letter nor any representative attending from the church at *Yalding*, we recommend that our Brethren, who supplied them last year, continue to supply them this, and also press the request of last year with respect to carrying on public worship, should they be disappointed of a Minister.

Third.—In compliance with the request of the fifth article of our last proceedings, our Brethren, *S. Kingsford* and *F. J. Kingsford*, have used means for the obtaining a new trust for *Wingham* Meeting-house, and report that a new trust has been appointed, and that it is probable the writings will soon be drawn up and executed with the following names as new Trustees, viz.—*Edward Kingsford, Wm. Kingsford, Barton, Sampson Kingsford, F. J. Kings-*

F. J. Kingsford, John Kingsford, Theophilus Carter, Thomas Christophen, Thomas Chapman, jun.

Fourth.—It appears that some attention has been paid to the sixth article of last Association, and that with considerable advantage; we therefore recommend that in future the motion of *Canterbury church* be more diligently regarded.

Fifth.—As agreed to last year, the writings of *Deal* and *Sandwich* Baptist Meeting-houses have been received from Mrs. Wife, and are deposited with Brother *Stephen Carter*.

Sixth.—With regard to the application of our Portsmouth friends, contained in the ninth article of last Association; by letter to this Association from that church, they thankfully acknowledge the receipt of collections from several churches; we still beg leave to recommend this case to the attention of such churches as have not yet made their contributions.

Seventh.—The address drawn up by Brother *John Kingsford* on the means of promoting a revival of religion in our churches was read, approved, and ordered to be printed.

Eighth.

Eighth.—Our Brethren at *Chatham* have agreed to renew the lease of their Meeting-house, and to build a baptistery and vestry, and also to enlarge and enclose their burial ground: The expence will amount to about 300*l.* nearly 200*l.* of which is already subscribed. They having requested the assistance of this Association to enable them to accomplish their design. We being persuaded the subject is worthy the attention of our churches, request our friends to patronize the cause, and encourage a collection for the same.

Ninth.—Our *Cranbrook* friends having requested advice in their particular situation, we recommend to our friends, the Trustees of the Meeting-house, to give all the indulgence they can (consistent with the nature of their trust) with respect to singing, and that Brothers *Boorman* and *Sampson Kingsford* do embrace the earliest opportunity of visiting them on that business.

Tenth.—Brother *Christopher*, of *Broadstairs*, having requested advice on the subject of admitting to the Lord's Supper those persons who have only been sprinkled or immersed in their infancy. It is our opinion that such a practice is unwarranted by scripture, and hath a tendency to make the invention of men appear equal in authority to the commands of God.

Eleventh.—We propose the subject of address next year to be on the nature and importance of baptism, and the necessity of Baptists being firmly and uniformly attached to those principles and that practice by which they are distinguished from other professors of christianity.—The address to be drawn up by Brother *Sampson Kingsford*.

Twelfth.—On a motion being made by Brother *B. Marten*, we agree that the senior Minister of the church where the Association is held, shall take upon him the business of calling the friends together, nominate a Chairman and Moderators, that the business of the day may be forwarded without loss of time.

Thirteenth.—The next Association to be held at *Headcorn*, the Tuesday month before Whitsun Tuesday, 1801.

Fourteenth.—The Association sermon to be preached by Brother *Joseph Seaton*, and in failure of him by Brother *Benjamin Dobel*. Service to begin at half past nine o'clock.

Fifteenth.—A sermon to be preached the evening before by Brother *William Thrussel*, and in failure of him by Brother *George Newby*.

Sixteenth.

Sixteenth.—The Association book to be deposited in the hands of Brother *Edward Love*.

Signed by order of the Association,

B. Marten, Chairman.

Joseph Dabel,
F. J. Kingsford, } Moderators.



From the press of Wm. Bristow, Canterbury.

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Sixteenth.—The Association book to be deposited in
the hands of Brother Edmund Love.

Signed by order of the Association, 1874

E. Martin, Chairman.

Joseph Doherty,
T. A. Kingdon, } Moderators.



